

MAIL STOP PCT

Attorney Docket: 26717U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MARAZZI

International Application Number: PCT/CH2003/000598

Serial Number: NOT YET ASSIGNED

International Filing Date: 03 September 2003 (03.09.2003)

Filed: April 13, 2005

Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SPLICING OF OPTICAL WAVEGUIDES
BY MEANS OF A FUSED JOINT**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.98. Please note the following particulars:

[NOTE: One only of items a, b, c, and d must be checked.]

- [XXX] a. The enclosed statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.
- [] b. The enclosed statement is being filed after a first action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311.
The enclosed statement is accompanied by [check one]:
[] i. a certification in part (e) below as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), or
[] ii. a check in the amount required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

- ☐ c. The enclosed statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, but before payment of the issue fee.
☐ Certification report(e) below; and
☐ a check in the amount as required by 1.17(p).
- ☐ d. The enclosed statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(i), for placement in the file.
- ☐ e. Certification [Check one] [Certification is required only if box (b)(i) or box (c) is checked.]
- ☐ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,
- or
- ☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- or
- ☐ Appropriate certification is attached.
- [XXX] f. If no check is enclosed and a fee is due in connection with this communication or if the check enclosed is insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or additional fee due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.
- [XXX] g. Copies of the documents are attached herewith with a completed Form PTO-1449.

or

[] Copies of the documents are not attached as allowed under CFR 1.98(d)(1)(2). The earlier application is identified as:

or

[~~XXX~~] Copies of US Patents/Publications not attached as allowed in Official Gazette Aug. 5, 2003/ Vol. 1273, no. 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to cite the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 in the next Office Action. In so doing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initial in the space adjacent to the listing of each document on the Form PTO-1449, and return a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication to Applicants, to confirm that these documents have been considered by the Examiner and made of record in this application.

If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss this application, kindly telephone the undersigned at the below-listed number.

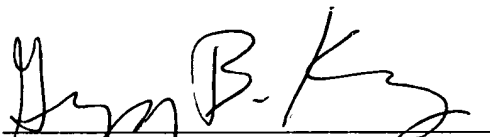
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 13, 2005

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FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION		Attorney Docket: 26717U		Serial Number: Not Yet Assigned		
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		Group Art Unit: Unknown		International Application Number: PCT/CH2003/000598		
				International Filing Date: 03 September 2003		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class Sub-Class	Filing Date
	A1	4,715,876	29 Dec. 1987	Osaka, et al.		26 Jun. 1986
	A2	6,237,370 B1	29 May 2001	Bloom		21 Aug. 1998
	A3					
	A4					
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class Sub-Class	Translation
	A5	1 174 744 A1	23 Jan. 2002	EP		Abstract
	A6	01/65288 A1	07 Sep. 2001	WO		Abstract
	A7	63118703	23 May 1988	JP		Abstract
	A8	91/13837 A1	19 Sep. 1991	WO		Abstract
	A9	0 568 113 A2	03 Nov. 1993	EP		Abstract
	A10	62014607	23 Jan. 1987	JP		Abstract
	A11					
OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
	A12	XP 000011649 Matsumoto, M., et al., "Fully Automatic, High-Speed Fusion Splice Machine for Single-Mode Optical Fiber Ribbon", <u>NTT Electrical Communications Laboratories</u> , Pp. 155-158.				
	A13	XP 000731598 Watanabe, T., et al., "Consideration on the Handling of Flexible, Brittle and Continuous Member in Fusion Splicing Robot for Optical Fiber Ribbons", <u>IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation</u> , Pp. 2413-2419, (1995).				
	A14					
	A15					
Examiner			Date Considered			
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP ' 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.</small>						